

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 were pending. Claims 2 and 12 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 7-11, 13-14, and 16 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-11, and 13-23 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment.

Allowed Claims

Claims 18-23 are allowed in the present Office Action.

Claim Rejections and Allowable Claims

In the present Office Action, claims 1 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 2002/0196506 ("Graves"), in view of newly cited U.S. Patent No. 6,560,010 ("DiJaili").

In addition to the above, claims 2-10 and 12-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In order to facilitate a more speedy allowance of the present application, Applicant has amended the claims to place all claims in condition for allowance as indicated by the examiner. In particular, each of independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended to incorporate features of allowable claims 2 and 12, respectively. Further, each of claims 7-10, 14 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant submits the application is now in condition for allowance. However, should the examiner believe issues remain which would prevent the present application from proceeding to allowance, the below signed representative requests a telephone interview in order to facilitate a resolution. The below signed representative may be reached at (512) 853-8866.

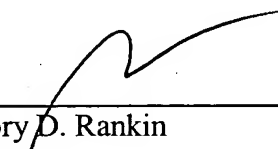
CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If any extension of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) is necessary to prevent the above-referenced application from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such an extension. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5957-16300/ RDR.

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Respectfully submitted,



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